



This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

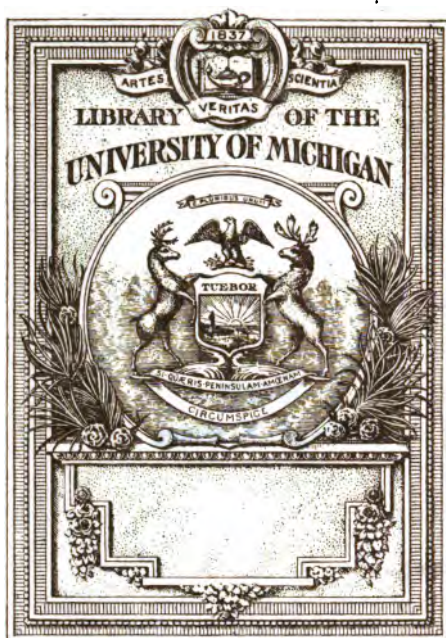
Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at <http://books.google.com/>

F
154
.E46
P4


B 3 9015 00233 676 9
University of Michigan - BUHR



WILLIAM ELLIOTT.



THE GIFT OF
J. Herbert Russell



W. Elliott

Pennsylvania General Assembly. Senate.

NOV 3 1887

NOV 3 1887

NOV 3 1887



W. L. G. L.

Pennsylvania. General assembly. Senate.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE
AND
OBITUARY ADDRESSES
ON THE
OCCASION OF THE DEATH
OF
HON. WILLIAM ELLIOTT,
A SENATOR FROM THE SIXTH DISTRICT
OF
PENNSYLVANIA.

HARRISBURG, PA.
LANE S. HART, STATE PRINTER.
1881.

F
154
.E46
P4



RESOLUTION.

In the Senate, Feb. 3, 1881.

Resolved, (If the House of Representatives concur,) That there be printed for the use of the Legislature, bound in muslin, the following, viz: One thousand copies of the proceedings in the Senate and obituary addresses relating to the death of CHARLES H. PAULSON, late Senator from the Forty-fourth district; one thousand copies of the proceedings in the Senate and obituary addresses relating to the death of WILLIAM ELLIOTT, late Senator from the Sixth district; and one thousand copies of the proceedings in the Senate and obituary addresses relating to the death of GEORGE DUGGAN JACKSON, late Senator from the Twenty-fourth district; five hundred copies of each for the use of the Senate, and five hundred copies of each for the use of the House of Representatives.

Extract from the Journal of the Senate.

Thos. B. Cochran,
Chief Clerk.

IN THE HOUSE, *February 4, 1881.*

The foregoing resolution concurred in.

Henry Huhn,
Chief Clerk House of Representatives.

APPROVED—The 28th day of February, A. D. 1881.

Henry M. Hoyt.

22573



PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENATE
ON THE DEATH OF
HON. WILLIAM ELLIOTT,

IN THE SENATE,
THURSDAY, *January 13, 1881.*

Mr. GRADY. Mr. President, now that the Senate has fully organized and resolutions are in order, I think this is the proper time to call attention to the loss we have sustained in the death of our colleague, Senator WILLIAM ELLIOTT, whose district adjoined my own in the city of Philadelphia. Seldom is any legislative body called upon to mourn the loss of a more distinguished member. It was native ability, earnestness of purpose, untiring energy, and reliable judgment that made Senator ELLIOTT a great man among men. For thirty years he had been prominent in political and official circles, during which time the people found in him a worthy trustee—a sagacious representative to the popular branch of the General Assembly, at another time an able Speaker of the same House, subsequently an efficient high sheriff of the city and county of Philadelphia, and finally at the time of his demise,

Senator from the Sixth district, honored and respected by all. Nor was he only a faithful public servant, he was at all times a good citizen, a devoted husband, an affectionate father, and for the bereaved ones our sympathy now goes out. Those of us who were members of the last session, painfully saw in his physical appearance unmistakable signs that the sands in the glass of his eventful and successful life were fast running out, but his iron will and naturally strong constitution happily postponed, as it were, the day that must come to all men and all living things. He seemed to regain part of his strength and improve in health while recreating at the sea shore, but the work of his terrible disease was nearer completion than his appearance for the time made it appear; it had gnawed too long and preyed too much upon his vitals to admit of recovery, so death's messenger came at last. The Senators from Philadelphia and some of the surrounding counties followed his remains to their last resting place, on Laurel Hill, saw them laid in the family tomb under the auspices of the world's great secret order that performs its last rites so well. Now, although we have scarcely passed the threshold of the present session, we notice his absence and miss his counsel.

Therefore, Mr. President, I offer the following resolution.

The resolution was twice read, considered, and agreed to, as follows :

Resolved, That a committee of seven Senators be appointed to report the manner in which the Senate will express its loss, and that sustained by the Commonwealth, in the death of Hon. WILLIAM ELLIOTT, late Senator from the Sixth district of Philadelphia.

Second, That a special meeting of the Senate be held at three o'clock, P. M., on Thursday, 20th instant, to receive the report and take such other action as may then seem proper.

Ordered, That Messrs. Grady, Jones, Herr, Wolverton, Hereter, Cochran, and Lee, be said committee.

OBITUARY ADDRESSES.

IN THE SENATE.

THURSDAY, *January 20, 1881.*

The PRESIDENT. The special order for this afternoon session is the consideration of the report of the committee appointed to prepare suitable resolutions in relation to the death of the late Senator ELLIOTT.

Mr. GRADY. As chairman of that committee, I beg leave to submit the following report.

The report was read as follows :

To the Senate of Pennsylvania :

The undersigned, appointed a committee to prepare some suitable testimony of our regard for our late colleague, the Honorable WILLIAM ELLIOTT, beg leave to submit the following minute and recommend its adoption :

JOHN C. GRADY,
HORATIO GATES JONES,
A. J. HERR,
S. P. WOLVERTON,
ISAAC HERETER,
JOHN COCHRAN,
J. W. LEE.

MINUTE.

WHEREAS, The Senate of Pennsylvania desires to testify their regard for their respected friend and late fellow member, Honorable WILLIAM ELLIOTT, Senator from the Sixth district ; therefore,

Resolved, That this body hereby records its high estimate of our late colleague as a man, a legislator and a friend ; that in the death of Senator ELLIOTT the city of Philadelphia has lost one of its most honored and faithful citizens, who exhibited, in all the public positions he held, great perseverance of purpose and energy of mind ; the State of Pennsylvania an ever watchful legislator, and we, his associates, a genial companion and a warm friend. To his family his death is irreparable, for amid all his public duties Senator ELLIOTT was a devoted husband and loving father.

Resolved, That we convey to his family our high appreciation of the esteem which we bore towards our deceased colleague, and that in further token of our regard a copy of the foregoing proceedings, carefully engrossed, after being signed by the President of the Senate and attested by the Clerk, be sent to the family of the deceased.

The resolutions were read a second time.

Mr. NORRIS. Mr. President, the death of the Senator to whom these resolutions apply is the occasion of my presence here, and it would be little respectful to the

district, which so often honored him, if I did not contribute some share, however humble, to the tribute which this body pays to his memory to-day. But other motives move me. In the life and character of Senator ELLIOTT there are valuable lessons; lessons which teach us what opportunities for wealth and distinction exist in this country and under our institutions; and what can be accomplished by a man with an unalterable purpose and a strong will. The early life of Senator ELLIOTT was along the rugged and thorny paths of poverty, but the journey molded his habits and tempered his mind for the subsequent struggles of his life, out of which he came with a large measure of wealth and no inconsiderable honor. He was a man that disdained, I might say, the refinements of debate. I have seen him, in the House of Representatives, come down from the Speaker's chair when that body was lashed into fury over the discussion of a measure in which its bitterest passions were enkindled; when its best, most talented and most respected men were unheeded in their appeals and even scoffed at; when decorum seemed to have been extinguished there, and the body was about almost to resolve itself into a mob—he came down from his chair, and with a few indignant sentences that burned and scathed as they leaped angrily from his lips, sent the whole body blushing to their seats. He was what we might call a strong man. He had, too, his passions and his prejudices,

and correspondingly strong talents. He hated and he loved with like intensity, and he had in consequence bitter enemies and loyal friends. He was always found in the front in a fight, and disdaining the puny ways of strategy and the contrivances of cunning, he bared his breast to his foes, and dealt them blow for blow. He never held any equivocal position in any contest; his friends and his enemies both knew where he was, and when he fell, he fell by the side of his standard.

Such a man would be successful in any condition of life. Circumstances that shape and control the lives of so many men only strengthened and stiffened him for more exertion. As a member of councils in Philadelphia, as high sheriff of that great city, as a member of the Legislature, in this Senate, in every place and in every exigency he displayed the same mental resources, the same undaunted spirit and the same unconquerable will. Such a man could not live in a great city like ours without occupying a large share of its confidence and respect, and it can be said of Senator ELLIOTT that the confidence and the respect which that city did repose in him were never misplaced. I have said that his life is full of instruction and lessons for us; it is to every youth in this land. The poor, lowly Irish boy, born in obscurity and cradled in poverty, died after having filled many places of public trust in this State, and the possessor of nearly one million dollars. And he was stricken down, my fellow Senators,

by death, the inevitable so graphically described the other day by the eloquent Senator from Dauphin [Mr. HERR;] and truly, in conclusion, I may say that an able man, a strong man, a brave man, fell when that fatal shaft from death's remorseless quiver pierced WILLIAM ELLIOTT'S heart.

MR. SMITH. Mr. President, I can hardly let this occasion pass without adding some tribute to the memory of the deceased Senator. The earliest recollections of my childhood were of him. I remember him, then, as a man, strong and brave, taking an active part in the affairs of the city of Philadelphia. Years rolled on, and I moved from that locality, and he remained. We seldom met until we met together in the halls of the coördinate branch of the Legislature of Pennsylvania. We renewed the acquaintance of my boyhood days, and it lasted until the day he died. He returned to Philadelphia to receive the benefits and the confidence of the citizens of Philadelphia, who elected him to the high position of sheriff of that city; and then retiring from that office, with all the honors that it could confer upon him, his fellow citizens unanimously sent him to the Senate of Pennsylvania, where he remained until the day of his death. I, with others, stood around his grave, and felt sad and mourned his loss. No one who ever knew him could possibly find any fault with his manner of fighting the battles of life. Nobody will ever accuse him of cow-

ardice ; nobody ever accused him of doing anything unfair or unjust. He was a man of strict integrity, and died as he had always lived, respected and admired by all.

Mr. COOPER. Mr. President, I had known Mr. ELLIOTT, in his legislative career, probably longer than any other in this chamber, unless it be the Senator from the First district, Mr. SMITH. I knew him as a member, as Speaker of the House, and as a Senator. He was a man of high integrity—so high, indeed, that it needed no special professions of honesty to convince the world of the fact. He was likewise a man of high ability—that form of ability which could say much in few words ; possessing that form of sense known as common, but really uncommon in its strength. Too strong for the run of human kind—the world appropriately describes this quality as “horse sense.” Compared with that usually manifested, it was as superior in Mr. ELLIOTT’s mental composition, as the horse is superior to man, physically. He was active in all public affairs ; courageous always ; false never !

Mr. HALL. Mr. President, the custom which obtains in this and other like bodies of having memorial services in honor of a deceased colleague is an honorable one. Honorable as a matter of public policy, and to the survivors not only creditable, but profitable as well. What may be said of our deceased colleague is of the supremest indifference to him. He is beyond the reach

of our praise and of our criticism. But the consideration of his character may be profitable to us, for he had traits well worthy of our emulation.

Two traits were prominent in the character of Senator ELLIOTT, as his character appeared to me. One was his courage. He had his own opinions and he maintained them, fearless alike of political foes and party friends, and without regard to the numerical odds that might be against him. No man or set of men could promise for him or pledge how he would vote, for although an ardent partisan, every measure had to be tested by his own judgment before he accorded it his support.

The other trait to which I refer was as characteristic and still more exceptional—it was his directness of method. He made no concealment of his purposes, and he despised all indirection in their accomplishment. His manner was blunt and brusque, so much so as often to excite the indignation of his opponents, and yet the frankness with which he avowed his purposes, and the boldness and directness by which he sought their attainment, extorted admiration even from them.

These traits, sir, are worthy of our emulation. I had known him for about ten years. I served with him also in the House as well as in the Senate. We were politically opposed to each other always. But we must have political parties. They are the very life of free institutions. The party in power can only be restrained

within proper bounds by the existence of a vigilant minority, exposing under the light of hostile investigation every act of the administration and subjecting it to the severest criticism. But while we must have political parties, it would be well if men in public life would always have independence of opinion, the courage to maintain their own opinions, and would be frank and open in their methods of political warfare.

In short, Mr. President, to make a closer application, it would be better for us, more honorable for us and for the Commonwealth we serve, if we were more imbued with these traits of our deceased colleague—courage of purpose and directness of method.

Mr. HERR. Mr. President, there is something worse than death. True, the thought of it sends a shiver, and we instinctively shrink when it is named; the funeral procession and wide-gaping grave, and the crawling worm, the dark stillness, deeper than silence, smite the heart of the living with dreadful fear. And yet does not the gay flower bloom over the grave? does the dew forget to kiss it, or the stream to bathe the turf, or the delicate, mysterious, most fantastic hoarfrost fail to deck the narrow bed where lies in rest the pilgrim's head? And what is life? A gulf of troubled waters, where the soul, like a vexed bark, is tossed upon the waves of pain and pleasure by the hot breath of passion. And so, whilst we may love and be entranced by this life, yet there are, I repeat, some things

worse than death; the loss of personal honor is one. For if, Mr. President, that be gone, what beauty is there in life that we should desire it? or what parent would not rather lay his child under the sod than have it live to wallow in immoralities, breeding pestilence in social life, to swell the turbid current of indecency and corruption? Surely, death is to be preferred to that.

The Greeks personified death by a beautiful boy, crowned with immortal youth; and the young man who stands upon the threshold of life, with the blood bounding in his veins and his heart like a nest of singing birds, looks out upon the future as upon a splendid picture seen beneath a rosy atmosphere. He hears the tinkling of musical bells, he scents the perfume of rare flowers, and the dainty arm of love beckons him on to a land of beauty. But soon stern reality disenchanting him; the vision fades into thin air, leaving not a track behind it. He soon finds that where he expected bread he received a stone, a serpent instead of a fish. He soon discovers that many things, passing as true coin, had a false and hollow ring in this life. He tested friendship, and was dismayed and appalled to learn that, at the slightest stress, the chord of friendship was snapped. Aye, he even tests love; and beneath the smile, he has recognized grinning selfishness, and, perhaps, infidelity. He may sound the shoals and depths of the sea of glory, and he beholds upon its deceitful bosom the battered hulks and broken

wrecks of many an ardent soul that sailed from port, rich in hope, bright in anticipation, glorious in aspiration. So he, before the lilies of time have much whitened his head, discovers sorrowfully and sadly that there are things worse than death. And yet, Mr. President, those experiences are not, in the economy of the Providence that rules and governs this world, without their advantage, if we accept in humility the deep lessons they are designed to convey. For the reverses, the disappointments the shocks, the defeated ambitions, the sorrowing and grief that we all must encounter in the journey spoken of by the Senator from Philadelphia [Mr. NORRIS,] are the material out of which character is formed. The oak is fertilized by the fallen leaves and broken boughs, and thus from itself and out of itself it grows into sturdy strength and magnificent proportions. And so it is that these disappointments, defeated ambitions, toil and care, trouble and woe, go to make up and build and mold the true man as he is, and not what he seems to be. The environments, the surroundings, the associations, the opportunities, referred to by the Senator from Philadelphia [Mr. NORRIS,] are the things that go to measure the man and give us a standard by which we can judge him. Sir Thomas Brown, a scholar and a metaphysician and a poet, once remarked that: "I am esteemed too poorly by those who are afar off; I am esteemed too highly by those who are too near."

Mr. President, we are not so far off from this dead Senator that we cannot detect his defects, nor so near that we cannot see his virtues and his merits, for he had those marked and pronounced. He was, according to my recollection, no half-way man, but a positive man, as has been so well described by the Senator from Philadelphia, [Mr. NORRIS.] He had that rugged common sense that enabled him to guide and direct his action with a peculiarly accurate judgment. He was endowed with that well-balanced combination of faculties which result in what is generally called sound common sense, a thing more frequently spoken of than met with, although so dogmatically claimed by so many. He had a genius for business, and in every department of life that he entered he mastered, conquered, and understood the details and the difficulties, and the result of that good common sense, that peculiar judgment, I gather from the remarks of the Senator from Philadelphia [Mr. NORRIS,] eventuated in amassing a million of dollars and establishing a reputation that his friends may be proud of. So, then, he, having started from poverty and having been nursed in the cradle of want, pursued his pathway through this life, stormy and rugged, as we have been told it was, having to pass into himself all the consistency, the resolution and virtue that that progress through that hard and harsh path imparted to him. Therefore, these attributes, powers, and merits of his character necessarily

express themselves in firm fidelity to friendship, generous forgiveness, and a hand open as day.

The brilliant qualities of the diamond are only shown forth when the wheel of the lapidary strikes it, and the true and good qualities of WILLIAM ELLIOTT only became conspicuous when the needs and necessities of a friend stirred the depths of his robust nature. It is true that he never deserted a friend, but he did not always strike a foe, especially if he was down. And it is, then, no wonder that he, in the confidence of the people who knew him, was called to fill positions of honor and of trust; and it is no wonder that each and all of these trusts were discharged and executed by him with native integrity of character. And so it is, as the Senator from Elk [Mr. HALL] has intimated, that whilst the dull, cold ear of death can hear no flattery, nor be disturbed by the tumultuous convulsions of this world, yet that the lesson is for the living, and the example is for our advantage. And so, then, extracting the best lesson we can from the life of this dead Senator, we can only hope that after life's fitful fever he may sleep well, and that should be the prayer for each of us to be commended to the love and friendship and appreciation of each other. For the silver cord will soon be loosened and the golden bowl be broken, and we, too, shall "pass over to the majority" that Carlyle speaks of. When? Where? How? is still the secret of eternity; but the shroud is weaving now,

and the bell of time is tolling for some of us. Be ye, therefore, ready!

Mr. HOLBEN. Mr. President, I intend to pay but a brief tribute to the memory of our late associate.

Senator ELLIOTT, though not without his faults (and no one is,) was an excellent and most remarkable man in many respects. I knew him personally only since the beginning of the session of 1879; but I knew of him for many years. I shall speak of him only touching my knowledge of him whilst I knew him personally.

I always esteemed him very highly. Although he belonged to a different political organization from what I did and still do, yet I cannot say that he was not respected by his political opponents. He certainly had my good opinion.

He was extreme in his political proclivities and views, and his convictions could not be changed. Everybody knew where to find him. To look for him on the fence was the wrong place. He represented but one side of a question, whether political or otherwise. When he said yes, he meant yes! and when he said no, he meant no! I considered him the most courageous man on this floor. He was fearless in everything he did. He was not an enemy in ambush. He was an open opponent in everything he did, fearing neither persons nor consequences. It cannot be said of him that he became all things to all men. In short, he was one of the

most positive, emphatic, and outspoken Senators of the session of 1879. He had no fears of the lions in his path. He could truthfully say—

“What man dare, I dare!”

He was independent and self-reliant. He flattered nobody to obtain his influence.

“He would not flatter Neptune for his trident,
Or Jove for his power to thunder.”

Senator ELLIOTT had decided abilities. He was clear in his arguments, and had great mental and physical force. His arguments were always noted for the simpleness of style and forcible expressions. There was nothing studied about them. He hated hypocrisy, and had no toleration for a man that flinched on a question.

He had very sterling qualities of mind and character. He was a leader among leaders. Men of such qualities are always respected by honest people, and feared by cowards.

Though the deceased was very strong in his convictions, and entirely fearless at all times and under all circumstances, he was, at the same time, a kind man, an obliging, and an agreeable companion.

Mr. NEWELL. Mr. President, I deem it my duty, as one of the colleagues of Senator ELLIOTT, to say a few words in regard to so kind a friend as he was to me. I became acquainted with Senator ELLIOTT shortly after the adjournment of the last House of Representatives in which he had been a member. He came back

to our city and became a candidate for sheriff, and it was my good fortune to enlist under his banner and to assist him to the attainment of that high office. From that day, to the day of his death, he was one of my warmest, one of my firmest friends. Had I a battle, WILLIAM ELLIOTT was by my side ; had I need of a friend, the late Senator ELLIOTT was at the front. All the way through from that time, until within a few weeks of his death, I had the pleasure repeatedly of meeting and talking with him. Unbroken from the start until the close, our friendship lasted, in fact, I may say increased. In the summer of 1879, I met him at Atlantic City. He was then an invalid and felt that he was fast approaching the glories of that better land for which he seemed to have a longing. I tried to speak words of encouragement to him, bade him look up, take courage ; he was still a young man, comparatively speaking ; he was of strong, robust constitution and doubtless would again recover his good health. Senators, I shall never forget his reply ; said he, "I am sliding down the hill, I am nearing the dark waters of the river of death, and I have no fears of its terrors."

In losing him I lost a friend. In losing him the city of Philadelphia lost a man of whom she was proud. In losing him the State of Pennsylvania lost a legislator that will be missed in these halls. In losing him his family meet with an irreparable loss that can never

be replaced to them until they meet again beyond that flowing river, known as the river of death. Let me express the hope here and now that he is safely housed with that Father who has so carefully watched over us, and that when we come to die, we may be enabled to say as he did, that we have no terrors awaiting us.

The question being,

Will the Senate agree to adopt the report of the committee?

The yeas and nays were required by Mr. LAWRENCE and Mr. GRADY, and were as follow, viz:

YEAS—Messrs. Alexander, Arnholt, Beidelman, Cochran, Cooper, Craig, Davies, Emery, Everhart, Gordon, Grady, Greer, Grof, Hall, Hereter, Herr, Holben, Jones, Kauffman, Keefer, Lantz, Laird, Lawrence, Lee, McCracken, McHenry, McKnight, McNeill, Mylin, Nelson, Newmyer, Norris, Parker, Reyburn, Roberts, Ross, Seamans, Shearer, Sill, Smiley, Smith, Stewart, Thomas, Upperman, Wolverton and Newell, *President pro tem.*—46.

NAYS—None.

So the question was determined in the affirmative.

The preamble was read, as follows:

WHEREAS, The Senate of Pennsylvania desires to testify their regard for their respected friend and late fellow member, Honorable WILLIAM ELLIOTT, Senator from the Sixth district; therefore,

The question being,

Will the Senate agree to the preamble?

It was agreed to.

The business for which this session was fixed having been transacted, the President adjourned the Senate until to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.



